

I moved to Oregon last March. Before that I lived and worked in Washington and Idaho. I can see a clear trend of ag business moving to Idaho. All of us in the Agribusiness world, want clean water, clean air and a reduction of carbon emissions. It is written into our mission statement and purpose. We are working to find the best way to reduce emissions. For example, we converted our diesel run hop burners to propane. Our other hop drying facility run on natural gas. The cost of fuel is a major component in our competitiveness in the hop industry. I foresee the following impacts of the bill.

1. Hops leaving Oregon. Currently, the hop crop is outpacing demand. We compete with Washington and Idaho. If we experience large increases in our costs, the production will move to Idaho where they will not be implementing a cap and trade policy. During the hop harvest, we employ over 300 people with a pay rate that is far above the minimum wage. During the off season we employ 100 people with an average pay rate of \$18 per hour.

2. Oregon will lose its competitive advantage for Hemp. Oregon is seen as a great place to grow industrial Hemp. The industry is set to grow to \$22 billion dollars by 2022. Oregon can have a great position that will employ thousands with high paying jobs. The problem is that Hemp needs to be dried. Propane, natural gas, and diesel fuel the burners. If we become noncompetitive cost wise, hemp will falter in Oregon and thousands of people will be left to minimum wage service jobs --if they even exist.

3. Agriculture will falter because Hops and Hemp are the two leading growth drivers.

I implore you to consider these issues. I would hate to be the one that approves this and then looks out over the Willamette Valley in 20 years to see very little agriculture. Ag feeds people and the demand for food is increasing exponentially. Lets work together to feed the world.

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